New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES May 29, 2014

The New Jersey State Occupational Therapy Advisory Council held its meeting on May 29, 2014, at the State Office Building at 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, N.J. The meeting was convened in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, with prior notification having been sent to the Secretary of State and the following publications: The Record in Bergen County, The Star Ledger, Camden Courier Post, Trenton Times, Aisling Swift Press of Atlantic City, and Asbury Park Press to advise of the scheduling of this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Betty Thomas at 9:30 a.m.

Opening Statement - Regarding compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act

Present Council Members: Betty Thomas, O.T., Chairperson

Mariann E. Moran, O.T.

Aida Mendez-Boud, O.T.A., Vice Chair

Diane Hill, Public member

Excused Tiffany Charles, O.T.

Bishop Cecil Mullings, Public member

Also Present Deputy Attorney General Nancy Miller and

Laura L. Anderson, Executive Director

MINUTES: November 14, 2013 Public Session Minutes Approval.

THE COUNCIL, UPON MOTION MADE BY MARYANN E. MORAN AND SECONDED BY AIDA MENDEZ-BOUD, VOTED TO APPROVED THE NOVEMBER 14, 2013, PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

II. COUNCIL DISCUSSION

RE: School records; Records keeping

Tabled

III. REGULATIONS Title 13 Chaper 44K; General Provisions

RE: 2016 Sunset (Temporary Licenses; Continuing Education)

The Council held a discussion regarding the upcoming Sunset.

IV. LEGISLATION

A. ASSEMBLY BILLS

Bill A -606

This bill, if enacted, would provide immunity from civil litigation for licensed health care professionals who care for or treat patients at a licensed health care facility (including federally qualified health care center), or a nonprofit free-standing clinic that is not owned or controlled by a licensed health care facility for no compensation.

THE COUNCIL SUPPORTS THIS BILL AS IT MAY HELP ALLEVIATE ISSUES REGARDING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES.

Bill A- 2460

This bill waives certain professional and occupational licensing fees for veterans and spouses of veterans.

THE COUNCIL NOTES THAT THE BILL DOES NOT HAVE A TIME LIMIT DURING WHICH FEES WOULD BE WAIVED, NOR IS THERE ANY MEANS TESTING. WHILE THE COUNCIL SUPPORTS LEGISLATION THAT ASSISTS VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES, THE BILL MAY BE OVER-BROAD.

B. SENATE BILLS

Bill A - 681

This bill provides for issuance of certificate of rehabilitation to certain offenders with substance abuse disorders.

THE COUNCIL SUPPORTS THIS BILL AS IT IS DESIGNED TO ASSIST IN REENTRY FOR PERSON WHO HAVE HAD SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES, YET PRESERVES THE DISCRETION OF THE LICENSING AGENCY TO EVALUATE APPLICANTS.

Bill S-682

Establishes process to bar certain health care providers from receiving reimbursements under PIP.

THE COUNCIL TAKES NO POSITION ON THIS BILL. THE LEGISLATURE MAY CHOOSE TO ACT TO ADDRESS SITUATIONS IT PERCEIVES AS IN NEED OF REMEDIATION.

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 11: 10 A.M. the Council, upon motion made by Aida Mendez-Boud and seconded by Mariann E. Moran, voted to move into the Executive Session to consider and to review consumer complaints, investigative reports and other information receive pursuant to the Council's regulations. The result of these deliberations will be made known when and if the Council's determines to initiate disciplinary or other enforcement action. If the Council determines to issue any sanction, lit will be announced in public session.

At 11:10 P.M. the Council, upon motion made by Aida Mendez-Boud and seconded by Mariann E. Moran, voted to adjourn the public session.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura L. Anderson Executive Director